



Department of Justice

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**MONTANA MAN SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS IN PRISON FOR TRAVELING TO
HAVE SEX WITH A MINOR**

ANDY MAXFIELD, 55, of Billings, Montana was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Seattle to five years in prison and 15 years of supervised release for Travel with Intent to Engage in Illicit Sexual Conduct. MAXFIELD had communicated over the internet with someone he thought was a mother and her 13-year-old daughter about engaging in sexual activity. In reality, MAXFIELD was communicating with an undercover officer. At sentencing, U.S. District Judge Thomas S. Zilly noted that MAXFIELD would be required to register as a sex offender.

MAXFIELD was arrested September 12, 2006 at a Holiday Inn in Kent, Washington. The investigation of MAXFIELD's activities began in June 2006, when a Naval Criminal Investigative Services (NCIS) investigator was contacted in a chat room by MAXFIELD using the screen name "Gentlooking4fun." According to documents contained in the court files, the undercover officer was using the screen name "Momofnavybrat" and represented that she had a 13-year-old girl.

MAXFIELD engaged in sexually explicit chat with the undercover officer and made arrangements to meet with the "mother and daughter" to engage in sexual activity with the minor. MAXFIELD also engaged in sexually explicit chat with the undercover officer who also posed as the 13-year-old girl. In these conversations, MAXFIELD told the "girl" that he would teach her about sexual activity and that she was not to tell anyone about it because he would go to jail.

MAXFIELD was arrested by agents at the hotel where he thought the mother and daughter were going to meet him. According to his plea agreement, he admitted to officers that he had brought condoms and a lubricant to the hotel thinking he was going to engage in sex with the 13-year-old girl. MAXFIELD also told agents that he had had a similar conversation as in this case with another mother and her 13-year-old daughter. MAXFIELD, who retired from the Army and was working as a bus driver, has been held at the Federal Detention Center at Sea-Tac since his arrest.

At sentencing Judge Zilly imposed a 15-year period of federal supervision to follow his release from the 5-year period of imprisonment, saying that this length of time was appropriate in this particular case.

United States Attorney Jeffrey C. Sullivan "The United States Attorney's Office is committed to the aggressive prosecution of sexual predators like Maxfield and we will do everything in our power to protect the children of this District."

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Internet Crimes Against Children Federal/State Task Force and Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Susan B. Dohrmann.

For additional information please contact Emily Langlie, Public Affairs Officer for the United States Attorney's Office, at (206)553-4110.

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